

In the Claims

- 025
1. (Currently amended) ~~a~~ A sustained-release composition ~~containing comprising~~ a biologically active substance ~~or salt thereof~~, a hydroxynaphthoic acid or salt thereof, and a biodegradable polymer or salt thereof.
 2. (Currently amended) ~~a~~ A sustained-release composition according to claim 1 wherein the biologically active substance is a biologically active peptide.
 3. (Currently amended) ~~a~~ A sustained-release composition according to claim 2 wherein the biologically active peptide is an LH-RH derivative.
 4. (Currently amended) ~~a~~ A sustained-release composition according to claim 1 wherein the hydroxynaphthoic acid is 3-hydroxy-2-naphthoic acid.
 5. (Currently amended) ~~a~~ A sustained-release composition according to claim 1 wherein the biodegradable polymer is an α -hydroxycarboxylic acid polymer.
 6. (Currently amended) ~~a~~ A sustained-release composition according to claim 5 ~~above~~ wherein the α -hydroxycarboxylic acid polymer is a lactic acid-glycolic acid polymer.
 7. (Currently amended) ~~a~~ A sustained-release composition according to claim 6 wherein the content ratio of lactic acid and glycolic acid is 100/0 to 40/60 mol%.

8. (Currently amended) ~~a~~ A sustained-release composition according to claim 7 wherein the content ratio of lactic acid and glycolic acid is 100/0 mol%.

9. (Currently amended) ~~a~~ A sustained-release composition according to claim 6 wherein the weight-average molecular weight of the polymer is about 3,000 to about 100,000.

10. (Currently amended) ~~a~~ A sustained-release composition according to claim 9 wherein the weight-average molecular weight of the polymer ~~isw~~ is about 20,000 to about 50,000.

11. (Currently amended) ~~a~~ A sustained-release composition according to claim 3, wherein the LH-RH derivative is ~~a peptide represented by the formula:~~

~~5-oxo-Pro-His-Trp-Ser-Tyr-Y-Leu-Arg-Pro-Z~~

~~wherein Y represents DLeu, DAla, DTrp, DSer(tBu), D2Nal or DHis(ImBzl); Z represents NH-C₂H₅ or Gly-NH₂; SEQ ID NO.:1.~~

12. (Currently amended) ~~a~~ A sustained-release composition according to claim 6, wherein the terminal carboxyl group content of the polymer is 50-90 micromol ~~per unit mass~~ ~~(gram)~~ of the polymer.

13. (Currently amended) ~~a~~ A sustained-release composition according to claim 3, wherein the molar ratio of the hydroxynaphthoic acid or salt thereof and the LH-RH derivative or salt thereof is from 3 to 4 to 4 to 3.

14. (Currently amended) ~~a~~ A sustained-release composition according to claim 13, wherein the LH-RH derivative or salt thereof is contained at 14% (w/w) to 24% (w/w).

15. (Currently amended) ~~a~~ A sustained-release composition according to claim 1,
wherein the bioactive substance ~~or salt thereof~~ is very slightly soluble in water or soluble in
water.

16. (Currently amended) ~~a~~ A sustained-release composition according to claim 1, which
is intended for injection.

Claims 17-21 (cancelled)

22. (Currently amended) ~~an agent for preventing or~~ A method of treating ~~of~~ prostatic
cancer, prostatic hypertrophy, endometriosis, hysteromyoma, metrofibroma, precocious puberty,
dysmenorrhea, or breast cancer, ~~or a contraceptive, containing~~ comprising administering a
pharmaceutically effective amount of the sustained-release composition according to claim 3
11 to a mammal in need thereof.

23. (Currently amended) ~~a~~ A sustained-release composition ~~containing~~ comprising the
~~hydroxynaphthoate~~ hydroxynaphthoic acid salt of a bioactive substance and a biodegradable
polymer or salt thereof.

Claims 24-28 (cancelled)

29. (New) A method of contraception comprising administering a pharmaceutically
effective amount of the sustained-release composition according to claim 11 to a mammal
in need thereof.